

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 23rd July 1892.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Ahmadí"	Tangail, Mymensingh	600	15th July 1892.
2	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura	.....
3	"Kaliyuga"	Calcutta	.....
4	"Kasipur Nivási"	Kasipur, Barisál	280	
5	"Navamihir"	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	14th ditto.
6	"Sadar-o-Mufassal"	Tahirpur, Rajshahi	.....
7	"Ulubaria Darpan"	Ulubaria	700	
Tri-monthly.				
8	"Hitakari"	Kushtia	800	13th ditto.
Weekly.				
9	"Bangavási"	Calcutta	20,000	16th ditto.
10	"Banganivási"	Ditto	8,000	15th ditto.
11	"Burdwán Sanjiváni"	Burdwan	335	12th ditto.
12	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	400	11th ditto.
13	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca	2,200	17th ditto.
14	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825	15th ditto.
15	"Grámvási"	Ramkristopore, Howrah	1,000	15th ditto.
16	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Boalia, Rajshahi	212	13th ditto.
17	"Hitavádí"	Calcutta	.....	14th ditto.
18	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Berhampore	.....	16th ditto.
19	"Navayuga"	Calcutta	500	
20	"Prakriti"	Ditto	.....
21	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	609	15th ditto.
22	"Prithivi"	Calcutta	.....	13th ditto.
23	"Rangpur Dikprakásh"	Kakinia, Rangpur	.....
24	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	800-1,000	
25	"Sahayogi"	Barisál	342	15th ditto.
26	"Sakti"	Dacca	.....
27	"Samáj-o-Sáhitya"	Garibpore, Nadia	1,000	
28	"Samaya"	Calcutta	3,000	15th ditto.
29	"Sanjiváni"	Ditto	4,000	16th ditto.
30	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	.....	16th ditto.
31	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca	300	
32	"Som Prakásh"	Calcutta	600	
33	"Srimanta Sadagar"	Ditto	.....	16th ditto.
34	"Sudhákar"	Ditto	3,100	15th ditto.
35	"Sulabh Samáchar"	Ditto	.....	14th to 16th, and 18th to 21st July 1892.
36	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Calcutta	500	
37	"Bengal Exchange Gazette"	Ditto	.....
38	"Dainik-o-Samáchar Chandriká"	Ditto	1,000	
39	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto	1,500	
40	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	15th, 16th and 18th to 21st ditto.
41	"Sulabh Dainik"	Ditto	.....	15th, 16th, 18th, 19th & 21st ditto.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
42	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	.....	18th July 1892.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Date of papers received and examined for the week.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
43	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samáchár Patrika."	Darjeeling	50	14th July 1892.
44	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna	250	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
45	"Aryávarta"	Calcutta	750	
46	"Bihar Bandhu"	Bankipore	500	7th and 14th July 1892.
47	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,200	14th July 1892.
48	"Champaran Chandrika"	Bettiah	350	
49	"Desí Vyápári"	Calcutta	.....
50	"Hindi Bangavási"	Ditto	.....	11th and 18th July 1892.
51	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto	500	
52	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto	4,500	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....	18th July 1892.
54	"Anis"	Patna	.....
55	"Calcutta Punch"	Calcutta	.....
56	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide"	Ditto	340	15th ditto,
57	"General and Gauhariyasi"	Ditto	.....	18th ditto.
58	"Mehre Monawar"	Muzaffarpur	.....
59	"Raisul-Akhbari-Murshidabad"	Murshidabad	150	
60	"Setare Hind"	Arrah	.....
61	"Shokh"	Monghyr	.....
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
62	"Asha"	Cuttack	165	
63	"Echo"	Ditto	.....
64	"Pradíp"	Ditto	.....
65	"Samyabadi"	Ditto	.....
66	"Taraka and Subhavártá"	Ditto	.....
67	"Utkalprána"	Mayurbhunj	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
68	"Dipaka"	Cuttack	.....
69	"Samvad Váhika"	Balasore	200	23rd June 1892.
70	"Uriya and Navasamvád"	Ditto	420	22nd ditto.
71	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack	420	25th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
72	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	480	11th July 1892.
73	"Silchar"	Silchar	500	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
74	"Srihatta Mihir"	Sylhet	332	

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II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 14th July, refers to the case of suicide committed by an up-country man in Calcutta, who had lost some money in rain gambling, and requests Government to put down such gambling, as it has commenced to lead to such serious consequences.

BHARAT MITRA,
July 14th, 1892.

2. A correspondent of the *Gramvasi*, of the 15th July, says that the daroga of the Khālor thāna in the Ulubaria Sub-division of the Howrah district, refused to take down a complaint preferred by Babu Abinas Chandra Sarkar against some police officers who had unjustly cut down a mango tree belonging to his grandfather.

GRAMVASI,
July 15th, 1892.

3. The *Sudhakar*, of the 15th July, says that recently some constables of Kareya, Ballygunge thāna, near Calcutta, had a fight with some residents of that part of the suburbs. A constable was taking a goat to the thāna, when a fellow, with whom the constable is said to have some misunderstanding, objected. A quarrel ensued, in the course of which the constable was thrown into an adjoining pond and well thrashed by some people of the locality including the man referred to above and his mother. But immediately after, a strong police force arrived on the spot and beat even many innocent persons. The writer was present on the spot and can testify to the high-handed conduct of the police on the occasion. Even constables from the Collinga thāna joined in the affray.

SUDHAKAR,
July 15th, 1892.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

4. The *Chāruvārtā*, of the 11th July, draws the attention of the Munsif of Sherpur in the Mymensingh district to the circumstance that stamps are not purchasable at all hours of the day in Sherpur, although the number of stamp vendors in the town is not very small, and hopes that the evil will be soon remedied.

CHARUVARTĀ,
July 11th, 1892.

5. The *Burdwān Sanjivani*, of the 12th July, has the following:—
The writer's observation of the acts of Government during the last few years has led him to the conclusion that Government no longer cares for an impartial administration of justice. The writer may be mistaken in holding this view, and the intentions of Government, which has always shown a careful regard for justice, may be very good, but, judged by its acts, Government now seems to be determined to make its administration more rigorous than before. In all its remarks on the acquittal of accused persons sent up by the police, it indirectly takes Magistrates to task for acquitting a large number of such persons. And the Magistrates, who carefully sift the evidence which is adduced against accused persons, and then let them off for want of satisfactory evidence, are now rebuked, disgraced, and degraded by Government, whilst the officials, who are rebuked by the High Court, are praised by it. Does not this mean that Government wants Magistrates to convict all accused persons, no matter, whether or not there be evidence against them? From this one may fairly conclude that Government no longer wishes to make justice its guiding principle, but wants to make the administration more rigorous with the object of intimidating the people.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
July 12th, 1892.

6. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th July, referring to Raja Suryya Kanta's trial, observes as follows:—

'SAHACHAR,
July 13th, 1892.

The Mymensingh case.
It matters not whether the *asami* in this case was a big man or an ordinary labourer. The point of importance is the manner in which the case was tried. Considering how Messrs. Phillips and Hallifax conducted themselves in this case, the liberty of none of Her Majesty's subjects seems to be safe. The writer imbibed the idea with his mother's milk, that all who live in the British Empire are free, and not even the Viceroy—nay, not even the Maharani herself—can put her finger on the body of a beggar in the street,

until he has been proved guilty of an offence in a Court of Justice. The English system of administering justice is an admirable one. And Mr. Phillips has violated this system in the trial of Raja Suryya Kanta. As he was the complainant in the case, he could not, under the law, try it himself. And the writer was, therefore, surprised to learn that Mr. Hallifax [was trying the case under the direction of Mr. Phillips! Mr. Hallifax admitted this in open Court. He also said that he had consulted Mr. Phillips at every step. It had been settled by Mr. Phillips that the Raja should be permitted to appear by agent. But one day, the Assistant Magistrate required the Raja to appear in person. The Raja obeyed. He was in fever, still he stood in the dock. Mr. Hallifax says that he was busily engaged when the Raja walked into the dock. But the writer knows well what this statement means. It means that Mr. Hallifax assumed for the time being an attitude of supreme indifference, and looked as if he did not perceive the entrance of the Raja into the Court. And then after the Raja had been in the dock for some time, a thief was ordered to enter into it, and the thief stood by the side of the Raja. After passing sentence on the thief, Mr. Hallifax turned towards the Raja and said—'if you wish you can take your seat in the body of the Court.' But the Raja had then suffered the whole humiliation, and the request to be seated in the body of the Court was a perfectly useless one. Mr. Phillips tried to mend this mistake, and wrote a strong letter to Mr. Mano Mohan Ghosh accusing him of having given bad advice to the Raja with the object of injuring him (Mr. Phillips) by exciting public sympathy on behalf of the Raja. This shows that, in spite of all his bravado, Mr. Phillips was not at heart without fear. The letter addressed by him to Mr. Ghosh has been filed with the record of the case. What does all this mean? Fortunately, instances of official madness like this are rare. But they do occur now and then. Here is an instance of gross abuse of power by a high officer of Government, and is not Government bound to punish that officer? In the opinion of the writer, the officer in question deserves greater punishment than even the Lushais and Afridis who commit raids on Her Majesty's subjects. If a French ruler commits oppression on any of Her Majesty's Colonial subjects, the British Ministry requires France to give indemnity for the same. But here is a case in which a Raja has been put to great trouble and expense, and why should he not receive compensation? If the Raja gains on appeal, he should be given compensation out of Mr. Phillips' own pay. Mad officers like Mr. Phillips should be turned out of the public service; nay, Government cannot help turning them out. If a man can be punished for committing dacoity through sheer want, why should not a man be punished for committing dacoity in the name of the law?

SAHACHAR,
July 13th, 1892.

7. The same paper says that Mr. C. N. Banerji has been for a long time Mr. C. N. Banerji, Deputy in Howrah as Deputy Magistrate. It is said that Magistrate of Howrah. he is a native of that place, and he should be therefore transferred elsewhere. In a recent case in the local Small Cause Court, Mr. Banerji defrauded his creditors by pleading limitation.

HINDU RANJIKA,
July 13th, 1892.

8. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 13th July, says that the inference which the public have drawn from the Mymensingh affair is that, higher authorities notwithstanding, it is the District Magistrates who enjoy the greatest amount of power in this country. In the case against the *Bangavasi* newspaper, the prisoners, though charged with sedition, were allowed seats in the Court. But in this case of a Magistrate *versus* a Raja, the accused was made to stand in the dock along with a common culprit. The writer does not know whether the explanation of his conduct given by Mr. Phillips in the *Englishman* newspaper has satisfied the Lieutenant-Governor, but he can say with confidence that the general public have not been satisfied with it. Mr. Phillips ought to be taught a severe lesson, or his high-handedness may some day involve a whole district in ruin. In conclusion, the writer asks the Lieutenant-Governor if he thinks that the people of Mymensingh will be satisfied with Mr. Lokendra Nath Palit after Mr. Phillips' regime.

HINDU RANJIKA.

9. The same paper says that the new District Judge of Rajshahi comes to Court at 11 A.M., but remains engaged in the report room till 2 P.M. or later, when he comes out to hold his Court. The business of the Court has, therefore,

The District Judge of Rajshahi.

sometimes to be carried on till a late hour of the evening. This causes great inconvenience to all parties concerned.

10. Referring to the order passed by the High Court on Mr. Jackson's

The High Court in the Mymensingh case.

application in the Mymensingh case, the *Banganivasi*, of the 15th July, declares itself alarmed to hear Mr. Justice Norris say that the Assistant

BANGANIVASI,
July 15th, 1892.

Magistrate made the Raja stand in the dock in the exercise of his executive authority, and that the High Court cannot therefore take any notice of the Magistrate's action in doing so. The Judges who sat to hear the application, acted very indiscreetly in exempting the executive authority of the officers of Government from the cognizance of the High Court. What will prevent anarchy in the country after this? After this precedent, the High Court will be unable to check the high-handedness of the Magistrate who shall send an innocent man to jail or seize his property in the exercise of his executive power. And what good will the country derive from a High Court which is unable to check such oppression? The *Indian Daily News* has very rightly said that the Mymensingh case should lead to the downfall of either Mr. Phillips or the Calcutta High Court. Mr. Phillips has not fallen. But the High Court has fallen. For the two Judges who have heard the application in the Mymensingh case have made a mistake by taking a mild view of the matter, and the High Court has on this account lost the respect of the people. And no greater disaster could befall the High Court than its losing the respect and confidence of the people.

11. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, says that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has gone beyond his province in making his unjust remarks on the acquittal of the Sham-bazar rioters. His Honour has commenced inter-

Sir Charles Elliott and the judiciary.

fering in a most unjustifiable manner with the administration of justice in the mufassal; and interference of this kind cannot be too strongly condemned, because it will have the effect of tying the mufassal judiciary hand and foot when they should be left free to act according to the dictates of their own conscience. Both the *Englishman* and the *Indian Daily News* have advised immediate public agitation against this action of the administrative authorities, lest, when the evil has been allowed to take root, Government should plead the excuse that it has become too late to try to check or remove it. The public bodies in the country should no longer remain asleep.

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1892.

The same paper has the following:—

12. Some raiyats of Babu Mahim Chandra Rai, zamindar of Mymensingh, instituted a suit against some of his officers for committing oppression upon them. The hearing of the case was fixed for the 4th March last, but,

A criminal trial in Mymensingh.

on the 1st March, one Lalmahmud, a raiyat of the zamindar, laid a complaint before the Magistrate, Mr. Phillips, to the effect that the zamindar had appointed *piyadas* and other men to intercept them on their way to the cutcherry on the day appointed for the hearing of the case. On hearing from Lalmahmud that the number of raiyats who would come to the cutcherry on the appointed day was so many as forty, Mr. Phillips disbelieved the complainant's story, and passed an order to the effect that he did not believe the story of the complainant, but if the zamindar should actually intercept the raiyats on their way, a scuffle would certainly ensue, and then it would be time to try the case; but, for the present, he did not consider it necessary to give any orders to the police. The papers relating to this complaint were sent to Babu Kailas Govinda Das, Deputy Magistrate. The order having been explained to the complainant, he was not satisfied, but further complained that they had not for some days been allowed to sit as sellers of articles in Mahim Babu's Bazar, and that when they went there to sell their goods, they were ordered by the zamindar's men to quit the bazar. On this, Mr. Phillips reconsidered his first order, and passed the following revised order:—

To District Superintendent of Police.—The matter is more serious than I had supposed. Some police must be deputed during the pending of the section 107, Criminal Procedure Code, proceeding. The petitioner must be protected from molestation. I consider that the petitioners had a right to sell in the public bazar, no matter, who the owner of the land may be. These men go regularly

SANJIVANI.

for their daily livelihood once to open market, and they must be protected from these gross oppressions. I consider that offences have been committed under sections 143, 341, 504, Penal Code, &c.

I direct that Bharat Rai, Ananda Tantra, Jabbar Bux, Mansur, Kalim, Maidhar, Sadir, the Faridhur *piyadas*, whom petitioners may identify (names unknown) be arrested on warrant.

H. A. D. PHILLIPS,
Magistrate.

The 1st March 1892.

Kadir corroborates—says 20 or 30 of them went to sell and were forbidden, and brought away their things unsold.

Case to be tried by Mr. Hallifax, Assistant Magistrate.

H. A. D. PHILLIPS,
Magistrate.

Now, the writer does not see what offence the zamindar's men committed in bidding the raiyats to quit the bazar. The bazar belonged to Mahim Babu, and he was certainly entitled to levy a rent on every man who sat there for purposes of selling goods. Does not Mr. Phillips himself levy rents on people who sit about his court for selling sweetmeats, &c.? The zamindar was certainly to blame if he refused the men admittance into the bazar after levying a rent from them, but there was no evidence to prove that such rent had been levied. Mr. Phillips also thought fit to transfer the case from the file of Babu Kailas Govinda to that of Mr. Hallifax. Mr. Hallifax tried the case under section 506 of the Penal Code, and passed the following judgment:—

"There is, however, no doubt that both Bharat Ray and Ananda Mohurrir were in the bazar at the time and that the *piyadas* were acting under their orders. Some of the raiyats went to them and they said they must leave the bazar. I think these facts constitute an offence under section 506, Indian Penal Code. Although no words have been proved conveying any definite threats, yet the fact that *piyadas* turned these men out of the bazar is in itself a threat of personal violence if they did not go, and the bazar being public bazar, although the land belonged to Mahim Babu, they have a right to stay there."

The men were fined and sentenced to imprisonment, but on appeal to the District Judge, the sentence of imprisonment was quashed and the prisoners were let off with only a fine.

The writer would ask the Lieutenant-Governor to enquire why Mr. Stephen, a resident of Mymensingh, was found closely watching the case. It is rumoured that Mr. Stephen, who, by the bye, is a friend of Mr. Phillips, had some misunderstanding with Babu Mahim Chandra Rai, and in order to wreak his vengeance upon that gentleman, induced his raiyats to institute the complaint against him.

SRIMANTA SADAGAR,
July 16th, 1892.

Messrs. Phillips and Hallifax
in the Suryya Kanta case.

13. The *Srimanta Sadagar*, of the 16th July, has the following:—

The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Mymensingh water-works—a gift of Raja Suryya Kanta's to his native district—was honoured with the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor, and His Honour availed himself of that opportunity to publicly pay a high compliment to the Raja for his public spirit and benevolence. His Honour said: "The many acts of public utility and charity of Raja Suryya Kanta Acharyya Bahadur merit the esteem of the public, and he is reckoned as the leading benefactor of the district." What a difference between the picture of the Raja as painted by Mr. Phillips and the picture of him as painted by Mr. Phillips' master! His Honour also said: "The second in importance to the water-works is the help he rendered to the extension of railway to Mymensingh. I congratulate the people of Mymensingh and the municipality for the inestimable gift of the Raja Bahadur." Mr. Phillips, Mr. Hallifax, see what your master, your earthly Providence, the Lieutenant-Governor, has said regarding the Raja! And you have made that same Raja stand in the same dock with that Karim Sheikh! Shame upon you! Shame upon the dignity of your office! Shame upon your

judicial procedure! And shame upon your very lives! Is the man worth the name, who does not honour him who deserves to be honoured? As regards the Raja, your insulting him will do him no harm. But how will you show yourselves to the public with your faces blackened as they have been? After enumerating a number of the Raja's liberal donations in aid of works of public utility, the writer goes on thus:—Mr. Phillips, if you have eyes to see, see; if you have ears to hear, hear; and if you have sense, consider how *oppressive* is the Raja whom you have made to figure as a defendant in a criminal case? The stream of his charity has not yet failed. He has made a donation of Rs. 20,000 for the construction of a Town Hall in Mymensingh; he has also made his district a gift of a spacious reading-room, and he has given Rs. 3,000 in aid of the Sanitarium in Darjeeling. His acts of charity are too numerous to admit of recapitulation here. Every year, on the occasion of the Durga Puja, he gives away in charities at least ten thousand rupees, and makes many other donations. The man who has up to this time given away in charities upwards of five lakhs of rupees, who has received a high title of distinction from Government, who has always made a proper use of his title, and who has spent more than a lakh of rupees for giving his tenants the benefit of a pure water supply, will surely suffer no harm if you, Messrs. Phillips and Hallifax, call him a daring robber. For the sanctity of the holy river Ganges is not destroyed by the throwing of night-soil and sewage into its water. The dog may direct its stream of unclean water against the sacred *Tulasi* plant (*Ocimum sanctum*), but it is the leaf of the *Tulasi* plant which is used in the worship of Vishnu. The language, therefore, which you have applied, and the treatment which you have accorded, to the Raja will not in the least derogate from his honour; nay, they will increase his honour. But, alas! every one in the country hears what a bad name you have earned. Owing to your bad deeds even your names will henceforward cease to be mentioned in society. Who are you to put an affront upon the man whom God has made honoured and respected? It is all the same whether men like you honour or dishonour the Raja. The Dullir (low-caste) woman throws away the precious pearl because it is not the plum she took it for, and the fine edge of the diamond is lost by being rubbed against the hard horn of the ram. We are not sorry for what has happened, and we think that our Raja too is not sorry for it.

14. A correspondent of the *Prakriti*, of the 16th July, speaking of the mukhtarship examination, writes as follows:—

PRAKRITI,
July 16th, 1892.

The mukhtarship examination.

The mukhtarship examination has been of late made extremely stiff. The number of text-books now exceeds 20. Books like the *Mitakshara*, the *Dattak Chandrika*, a book on Muhammadan law, which are absolutely of no use to mukhtars in practice, have to be read. And in order to pass, the candidates must obtain 66 per cent. of the total marks: a percentage, that is, which is double that required of B L. candidates. Again, in the *viva voce* paper the candidates must get 60 per cent. of the marks. Last year only 116 out of 658 candidates passed. The President of the Pleader and Mukhtarship Examination Committee is asked to lower the percentage of the pass marks for the mukhtarship examination.

SULABH DAINIK,
July 21st, 1892.

15. In reference to the case in which a respectable pleader of the Burdwan Court, the son of the Chairman of the Burdwan Municipality, was fined Rs 5 for having pushed out of his house a police constable who had called him a liar, the *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 21st July, says that in upholding in appeal the sentence of the lower court, the Judge, Mr. O'Kinealy, told the appellant's counsel that "if you push a man only with a view to oust him, you can push him as much as you can, but, if you get angry and push him, that is criminal." Now it is not clear what Mr. O'Kinealy means. If his meaning is that if without being angry a man pushes another by mutual understanding or by way of joke, he commits no offence, there was no necessity for the learned Judge to give the explanation, for everybody knows it already. But if this is not his meaning, then it follows that nobody has the right to do anything which might be construed to be an offence under any circumstances. But is there not such a thing as "extreme provocation" under which a man may commit a petty assault without making himself liable to punishment under the law? And was not extreme provocation given when a common constable

When pushing is a criminal offence.

called a respectable pleader like the appellant a liar to his face? Does the section of the law relating to extreme provocation, then, apply to Europeans alone, and not to a native like the appellant in this case? Praised be the law courts which are proving the ruin of the country!

(c)—Jails.

PRAKRITI,
July 16th, 1892.

16. The *Prakriti*, of the 16th July, says that under the new rule prisoners in a dying condition or unfit for work will be released from jail, but will not after their release be treated at the hospital gratis. The *Hindu Patriot* is in ecstasies over this rule, but the rule appears in a very different light to the writer. Prisoners who are either dying or have become unfit for work cost something to Government, and Government wants to save expenditure by getting rid of them. There is no good intention in the matter.

(d)—Education.

BANGAVASI,
July 16th, 1892.

17. Referring to the appointment of Dr. Rasik Lal Datta to officiate for Dr. McConnell in the Calcutta Medical College, the *Bangavasi*, of the 16th July, asks why Dr. Datta was not permanently appointed to the post on Dr. Chandra's retirement, when it appears that he is deemed competent to fill it. The post has been for a long time looked upon as one reserved for a competent England-returned native doctor, and Dr. Rasik Lal should have been appointed to it immediately after Dr. Chandra's retirement.

PRAKRITI,
July 16th, 1892.

18. The *Prakriti*, of the 16th July, says that the Lieutenant-Governor himself admits that the number of Entrance candidates in the district of Bankura has fallen off, and yet His Honour has asked the Bankura Municipality to curtail its educational expenditure. Again, if Bankura is not made a centre for the Entrance examination, a great many people of the district will have to give up every idea of giving their children high education, for it will be impossible for their boys to come to Burdwan in order to appear at the Entrance examination. The writer asks the people of Bankura to agitate on the subject, and to carry their agitation to Parliament if necessary.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
July 18th, 1892.

19. The *Hindi Bangavasi*, of the 18th July, says that the work of constructing a building for the proposed industrial school in Bihár has been made over to a European contractor at an estimated cost of Rs. 12,000. Was there no native contractor in Bihár that even such a small work had to be made over to a European?

SULABH DAINIK,
July 19th, 1892.

20. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 19th July, has an article headed "The Downfall," from which the following extract is made:—

Mahamahopadhyaya Bhuban Mohan Vidyaratna as a Government stipendiary.

The learned and venerable Pandit Bhuban Mohan Vidyaratna may be able to prove by means of that logical skill and subtlety of which he is an acknowledged master that by accepting a post under Government he has not acted contrary to the spirit of the Hindu shastras. But the public have no longer any faith in the words that may come out of his mouth; they now want to look into his heart and hear what his conscience says. And was he really reduced to such pecuniary straits as to be compelled to accept service for his own subsistence and the subsistence of the few people whom he entertains at his house? This is not to be believed, seeing that he is still revered like a god wherever he goes, and people are never satisfied that they have given him enough. And supposing that he is really in straits, Hindu society has not yet become so poor or callous as to turn a deaf ear to his request for help. There are still in the country wealthy Hindus like the Maharaja of Darbhanga, the Maharani of Kasimbazar, the Maharaja of Susang, the Rani Hemanta Kumari of Putia, the Raja Sasisekhar of Tahirpur, the Raja Suryya Kanta of Mymensingh, Kumar Binay Krishna of Sobhabazar, and a host of others. Any one of these persons can not only give all the assistance the Vidyaratna may require, but maintain half a dozen tols at his own expense.

21. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 20th July, had heard with sorrow that Mr. Hill would be appointed to the post of Inspector of Schools, Burdwan Circle, and is now glad that Babu Beni Madhab De has been appointed to the post. Beni Babu's learning and ability are well known, and Government has given proof of sound judgment by giving him the Inspectorship. Speaking generally, Europeans ought not to be appointed Inspectors of Indian schools, natives being more fit for those posts. No European Inspector of Schools ever acquitted himself as creditably as Babu Bhudeb Mukerji. Rai Radhika Prasanna Mukerji, Bahadur, has also surpassed European Inspectors in ability. But as regards the Assistant Inspectorship, an able Deputy Inspector of Schools and not Babu Shib Chandra Gui of the Sanskrit College should have been appointed to that post. No one questions Babu Shib Chandra's worth or ability, but Deputy Inspectors who have grown old in doing the work of inspection, should have been considered possessed of a preferential claim to such a post.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 20th, 1892.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

22. The *Charuvarta*, of the 11th July, draws the attention of the Chairman of the Sherpur Municipality to the fact that no indoor patients are admitted into the charitable dispensary, though there are orders for the admittance of such patients there. The writer would also beg the municipal authorities to see that a compounder and a dresser remain in the dispensary when the doctor in charge goes out on his private practice.

CHARUVARTA,
July 11th, 1892.

23. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 12th July, says that the passage of night soil carts, one after the other, from morning till 12 noon, on the road leading to the court-houses in the town of Burdwan causes great inconvenience to the local public. Instead of going one after the other, the carts should start all at once and take the comparatively unfrequented road leading from Radhanagar to Kalibazar *via* Bishata. The time for running the carts should also be changed to 1 P.M., when the road in question is used by a very small number of people. It is hoped that the Commissioners of the Municipality will consider the proposal favourably.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
July 12th, 1892.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

24. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, makes the following protest against the proposal to construct a bridge over the Brahmaputra at Nasirabad in the Mymensingh district :—

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1892.

It is difficult to see how Mymensingh town will benefit by a bridge, beyond getting an easy passage across the river during six months of the year when the river remains almost full. And would it be advisable for the District Board of Mymensingh, which has an annual income of only two lakhs and twenty-one thousand rupees, to borrow two lakhs of rupees from Government at interest for making a bridge? The loan will be repaid in 15 years, and the interest during that period will amount to Rs. 83,834. So, during the next 15 years, the hands of the Board will be completely fettered, and no work of greater public utility, such as the construction of roads, the digging of tanks, the excavation of canals, can be undertaken by it, and even the public works already executed will have to remain without improvement or repair. Considering how the people of the district suffer from scarcity of water during the summer season, it has become very necessary to excavate a large number of tanks; and a re-excavation of the old canals, which have completely silted up has become necessary, not only for securing increased facilities for inland navigation, but for giving the district a good drainage system.

(h)—*General.*

25. The *Charuvarta*, of the 11th July, says that the sub-registry office in Iswarganj in the Mymensingh district is not well spoken of. The writer will, if necessary, publish the charges made against the office.

CHARUVARTA,
July 11th, 1892.

SAMACHAR,
July 13th, 1892.

26. The *Sachar*, of the 13th July, cannot believe the rumour that Sir Charles Elliott will shortly bring Mr. Phillips into the Bengal Secretariat.

**DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,**
July 14th, 1892.

27. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 14th July, has not now any doubt whatever that a man of Mr. Phillips' type ought on no account to be kept in charge of a district. Many people would like to see Mr. Phillips removed from the public service altogether, but the writer will not go so far as that, for he has not the courage to go so far, and he knows full well that such a proposal will never be carried into effect. All that the writer would therefore suggest is that Mr. Phillips should be removed from the rank of a District Magistrate and placed in a position in which he will have no occasion or opportunity to exercise official authority over others. Such a post may be found for him in the Bengal Secretariat or in the Board of Revenue, where he will have to work under able officers.

BANGANIVASI,
July 15th, 1892.

28. The *Banganivasi*, of the 15th July, asks if Mr. Hallifax's promotion to the charge of the Narainganj subdivision is meant to be a reward for his high-handed conduct towards Raja Suryya Kanta.

BANKURA DARPAN,
July 15th, 1892.

29. Referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's recent visit to Bankura the *Bankura Darpan*, of the 15th July, writes as follows:—
The Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Bankura.
1. Great preparations were made for His Honour's reception, and large sums spent for the purpose. The Lieutenant-Governor delivered a speech in which he expressed himself satisfied with the condition of the roads in Bankura, and the loyalty of the Bankura people. But did His Honour make any enquiry as to how the Bankura people are passing their days just now? Did the authorities inform His Honour of the condition of the Bankura people? So far as the writer is aware, nobody thought it his duty to say anything to His Honour on the subject. The fact is that every one was anxious to save himself from the Lieutenant-Governor's displeasure and had not time to think of anything else.

2. Before the Lieutenant-Governor came to Bankura it was hoped that his visit would lead to a removal of the wants of the district. And it was in this hope that the writer mentioned some of these wants in this paper. But His Honour has apparently paid no heed to the subject.

3. Bankura is a very backward district as regards education. The parents and guardians of boys here have still to be persuaded to send their boys to school. This being the case, the proposed abolition of the Government school in this place will have a most detrimental effect on education. Again, the school in question is a self-supporting one, and there is, therefore, no necessity of abolishing it.

The writer's complaints on the score of insanitation and water-scarcity in Bankura have received no attention from the Lieutenant-Governor. Probably these complaints were not properly represented to His Honour, for if they had been, something would certainly have been done in the matter.

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1892.

30. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, says that Mr. Phillips having left Mymensingh on leave and his foremost disciple Mr. Hallifax having been transferred to the Narainganj subdivision of the Dacca district, the people of Mymensingh will once more breathe freely and can hope that justice will be done in their district. In regard to Mr. Hallifax's transfer, however, the question may be asked if it has been proper to place an inexperienced lad like him in charge of a subdivision. Mr. Hallifax should undergo three or four years' judicial training in the Sadar before he is placed in charge of a subdivision.

SANJIVANI.

31. The same paper regrets to notice that the Government of India has rejected the petition submitted to it for the admission of Indians into the volunteer corps. It appears that the Government has not yet been able to dispel from its mind its distrust of native loyalty. How long will this state of things last?

The Lieutenant-Governor on the
cooly question.

32. The same paper has the following on the Lieutenant-Governor's recent utterances at Purulia on the cooly question:—

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1892.

The writer has been astonished and grieved to read the Lieutenant-Governor's remarks on the cooly question during his recent visit to Purulia. His Honour has heard from the Deputy Commissioner of Purulia that oppression in connection with cooly recruitment has considerably abated, and, therefore, disbelieves the statement made by the general public in Purulia that these oppressions have rather increased of late. The writer has published in this paper numerous reports of oppressions committed by the *arkatis* on the coolies, and he will now say nothing more himself on the subject, but quote from the reports submitted to Government in this connection by the officials in Chota Nagpur. Most of these officials have characterized the process of recruitment as nothing short of kidnapping. As for the happiness and prosperity of the coolies in the tea gardens, the writer will shortly publish evidence to show the sort of prosperity they enjoy there. The following extracts are then given—

TESTIMONY OF LOCAL OFFICERS.

The Commissioner of Chota Nagpur writes:—

"Kidnapping and wrongful confinement cases are common to all the districts of this Division, but the cases of cheating are mostly confined to Lohardaga, where the complainant is the local agent, and the accused a cooly who has absconded after taking advances.

"While the cases of cheating severally include false personation, those of wrongful confinement in several instances are distinguished by certain elements which bring the work of recruiting into great disrepute. There are also several instances of abduction, and of the recruiter having taken advantage of family quarrels, and some of the coolies being in the first instance enticed away under promise of work locally.

"The number of convictions obtained is remarkably small, being 57 only in 252 cases, and some of these were afterwards reversed on appeal, but the paucity of the convictions serves to accentuate the difficulties of the situation, illustrating how hard it is for aggrieved persons to get their wrongs redressed.

"The cases which do not constitute offences under the Penal Code, or, to speak more correctly, which were treated as not constituting such offences, are very numerous; and, omitting complaints under Act I of 1882, which are triable like ordinary offences, consist of complaints to the police on which no action was taken beyond entry in the station diary, and miscellaneous petitions to the Magistrate, which, however, are mostly petitions to search depôts. The sum total of these complaints and petitions for the whole Division is 487, and when it is found that they nearly all refer to the disappearance of some member of the petitioner's family, the question arises, what does it signify? There are cases where it would be obviously improper to regard the number of petitions as a measure of the intensity of the grievance complained of, but this is not such a case. The complaints do not come from the same locality, or relate to same facts, but from all parts, and describe distinct events, entirely unconnected with each other. How, then, is it possible to doubt their genuineness? The frequent recurrence of the same form of complaint by persons unconnected with each other must have an impression on the minds of all who carefully consider the subject that abuses do occur which ought to be repressed."

The Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas observes:—

"The only system which prevailed here was the one called free emigration, but which is spoken of by the people as the "sale" system, and this is owing to the malpractice of *arkatis*, who have enticed away young girls and married women from their lawful guardians. Under this so-called free emigration system abuses prevail to a large extent. Misrepresentations are constantly made by *arkatis*, and women and girls are inveigled by the most crafty devices. The secrecy observed, and the sudden disappearance of persons cause people to apprehend mischief, and it is therefore not to be wondered at that emigration to Assam is looked upon with suspicion and dread."

The Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum, Mr. Baker, an officer who has made a special study of the subject, observes:—

“Cases of improper recruitment may be divided into three classes—

“(a) cases which involve kidnapping, wrongful confinement, or the use of criminal force ;

“(b) cases which involve misrepresentation of the position and emoluments of the emigrant in the labour districts ; and

“(c) cases where advantage is taken of a temporary impulse of the labourer to break his family ties.

“These three classes do not stand on the same footing. Cases of kidnapping and the use of criminal force are much more common than is generally supposed especially in their less serious forms. These offences are punishable under the Indian Penal Code, and are cognizable by the Police. Cases of the second class constitute the offence of cheating, and are punishable under the Penal Code, but are not cognizable by the police. These cases are common in reality, though they seldom come before the courts.** While the Bengal-Nagpur Railway was under construction in Manbhum, complaints used to reach me that labourers had been enticed away from home by promise of employment on high wages, sometimes on a mythical railway in Eastern Bengal, and then smuggled away to Assam. The people of this district are, however, becoming familiar with the real character of tea garden work, and the opening for frauds of this nature is becoming smaller.

“If these two classes covered all the abuses connected with recruitment, the case for an amendment of the law would be less urgent. I should still consider the law unsatisfactory ; for while, on the one hand, the profits of the contract system hold out great temptations for the commission of offences, the emigration law on the other hand facilitates the commission of them successfully with little risk of detection. But the evils which I have placed in the third class stand on an entirely different footing. These acts do not constitute a breach of the Penal Code or other existing law, and are not a criminal offence. They may be, and are committed openly day by day with ever-increasing frequency, and the authorities are powerless to interfere. Yet, though they cannot be punished by law, and though it would be impossible (and even expedient) to make them criminally punishable, they nevertheless do constitute an evil of great magnitude, and one which is felt by the sufferers as a cruel wrong. A wife and her husband have a petty quarrel. The arkati, prompt to seize the opportunity for his own profit, hastens to widen the breach, and tempts the woman to leave her home and her children with alluring pictures of tea garden life. If she yields, her home is broken up, and she probably never sees her husband or children again. In the same way boys and girls are tempted to leave their parents, parents leave their children, husbands their wives. * * * Out of 2,407 emigrants of all kinds, who left their homes during the year, it is found that 61 husbands left their wives behind, 144 wives left their husband and children, and 548 children left their parents. Six hundred and ninety-one are said to have gone to Assam against the will of those members of their family who remained behind.”

The Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum observes:—

“Cases of abduction do, and I believe, occasionally occur in this way, that women are deceived into believing that the arkati who induces them to go is going either to marry the woman himself, or take her under his protection. The deception is not discovered by her until she finds herself, after arrival in Calcutta, landed in some depôt and deserted by the man who had brought her down. The man's name and residence being unknown to the woman, if such a complaint is made as was done in one case, no endeavours to find the man can possibly be made.”

The Deputy Commissioner of Hazáribágh writes:—

“Rustics whilst journeying are shown the wrong way if they happen to ask an arkati which way the road to their destination lies. They are tricked into a jungle and kidnapped, and taken to some depôt.

“The arkati visits some liquor shop and becomes friendly and confidential with some unfortunate, whom he finds the worse for liquor. He supplies him with more drink, and then volunteers to guide him home, but instead, takes him to some depôt.

"Ignorant villagers are offered work. They unsuspectingly accept the offer, but on entering the house where they are to work find themselves in a depôt.

"Rustics are accosted at bazar on a market-day and offered drugged liquor or a *chilum* of tobacco. They get intoxicated after drinking or smoking and are taken to some depot."

The Deputy Commissioner of Lohardaga writes:—

1.—KIDNAPPING AND ABDUCTION.

2.—WRONGFUL CONFINEMENT.

It sometimes happens that persons who are brought by fraud or misrepresentations discover the true state of things at the depôt, and want to return to their homes, but this the arkatis never allow them to do. It has also been known that persons having articles for sale have been taken by arkatis to depôts under pretence of buying these articles and have been kept confined there.

"3. *Cheating*.—It is simply notorious that persons are induced to emigrate under gross misrepresentations of the mode of life they will lead in the labour districts, women are not unfrequently induced to leave their homes in false hopes of getting married to the recruiter himself, or of getting protection from some other person of position.

"4. *False personation*.—In cases of recruitment by kidnapping, abduction, or other unfair means, a different person is produced before the registering officer to avoid detection.

"5. 'Snatching away' of coolies by recruiters and garden sardars among themselves on the way, attended with offences of rioting, assault, and wrongful confinements, and restraints, &c."

33. Referring to the rejection by the Government of India of the prayer of certain Bengali gentlemen to be enrolled as volunteers, the *Bangavasi*, of the 16th July, considers it noteworthy that a Bengali can become a member of the Supreme Legislative Council, and even Chief Justice of the High Court, but cannot even voluntarily serve as a soldier in his country's cause.

BANGAVASI,
July 16th, 1892.

Mr. Hallifax's promotion. 34. The same paper has the following:—
Mr. A. G. Hallifax, Assistant Magistrate of Mymensingh, has become well known to the public in consequence of the *Suryya Kanta* case; and many people had thought that the "boy" Hakim, would be degraded for his disgraceful conduct in that case. But the *Calcutta Gazette*, of the 13th July last, announces his promotion. For from a subordinate capacity to the charge of a subdivision is promotion indeed! But there is nothing to be astonished at, and a good deal to learn, in this. And if this, too, fails to teach, the writer does not see what will. Those who are rejoicing frantically over Mr. Dadhabhai Naoroji's return to Parliament should carefully note a *fact* like this.

BANGAVASI.

Punishment of Messrs. Phillips and Hallifax.

35. The *Prakriti*, of the 16th July, writes as follows:—

PRAKRITI,
July 16th, 1892.

Mr. Phillips has had recourse to the usual civilian trick of taking leave as a means of escaping out of a difficulty. The *Indian Mirror* newspaper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has stopped Mr. Phillips' promotion for one year. The writer cannot say whether or not there is truth in this statement. But supposing it to be true, the writer must say again and again that Mr. Phillips has been very lightly dealt with. Mr. Hallifax has been transferred to Narayan-ganj in the Dacca district. But has any punishment been inflicted upon him?

Manikganj matters in the district of Dacca.

36. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 17th July, has the following:—

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 17th, 1892.

1. It seems that the writer's description of the miserable condition of the Jafarganj and Harirampur thánas, within the jurisdiction of the Manikganj subdivision of the Dacca district (R. N. P. for week ending 2nd July, 1892, paragraph 64) has touched the heart of the Lieutenant-Governor, and His Honour will therefore visit Manikganj on his way to Daudkandi. At Manikganj the Lieutenant-Governor should ascertain whether there is scarcity in any place within the subdivision, and take the necessary measures for protecting the people from distress.

2. If Government wants to save the people of the above two thánas from death, it will be necessary for it to join the river Kantapati with the Padma and the Dhalesvari. If a khal leading to Uthali from Aricha, a distance of only two-and-a-half miles, be excavated, all water scarcity in the thánas in question will be removed and death from that cause, prevented. The excavation of such a khal will also facilitate trade with Goalundo. If the channels of the Kantapati and the Dhalesvari, lying between Uthali and Garpara *viâ* Ghiair, be deepened by four or five feet, the Goalundo steamer route will admit of being shortened by 55 miles, and the journey by steamer by seven hours. Fifteen years ago, the Eastern Bengal Railway Company recommended the construction of this very khal. As the level of the waters of the Padma is lower than that of the Dhalesvari, near Ghiair, the khal, the excavation of which is now proposed, will not be likely to be destroyed by rush of water from the Padma.

3. The raising of the salary of the chaukidars to Rs. 5 by Mr. Jenkins, Magistrate of Dacca, is causing much inconvenience to the poor. If the matter is represented to the Lieutenant-Governor, His Honour will certainly cancel the Magistrate's order.

4. The estimate of the income and the cost of the proposed Dacca-Goalundo tramway line, which has been prepared by the Government Engineers is an erroneous one. The annual outturn of the line has been estimated at Rs. 16,000, instead of at Rs. 6,00,000. At present the despatch steamer plying between Dacca and Goalundo carries 24,22,179 maunds of goods, whilst native boats and other steamers carry at least 90 lakhs of maunds of goods. This being the case, the Government Engineers only proved their ignorance by estimating the goods traffic on the proposed tramway line at 2 lakhs of maunds. Again, considering that the jungly railway line between Dacca and Mymensingh has an annual income of nearly 4 lakhs of rupees, it has been most foolish to estimate the income of the proposed tramway line at Rs. 1,97,020. Again, considering that 8 lakhs of passengers annually use the jungly line between Dacca and Mymensingh, it has been most improper to estimate the passenger traffic on the proposed tramway at 164,250 men. In fact, under each of the three heads of income from the working of the proposed tramway line, the estimate of the Government Engineers is shorter by Rs. 21,346-8. And it is this incorrect estimate by them that has damped the ardour of the members of the Dacca District Board. Sir Charles Elliott ought to take these Engineers to task for discouraging a really good undertaking by means of an incorrect estimate. The line will cost only 13½ lakhs of rupees which may be repaid in 2 or 3 years. The writer will, therefore, be sorry if the Lieutenant-Governor does not signalize his administration by constructing the line in question.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 18th, 1892.

Sir Charles Elliott on the Hurdwar affair.

37. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 18th July, says that Sir Charles Elliott did not do well to refer in his Deoghur speech to a North-Western Provinces affair, and to defend the conduct of the Hurdwar officers. In alluding to the Hurdwar affair, Sir Charles clearly went beyond his province. The public will think that His Honour's defence of the Hurdwar officers means that Bengal officers conducting themselves like the Hurdwar officers will be similarly defended by His Honour.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 21st, 1892.

The Water-supply Conference at Belvedere

38. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st July, cannot approve of any one of the three resolutions which were adopted at the Water-supply Conference at Belvedere. No real work in this direction will be done, if Government itself does not take the matter up. The preponderance of Government influence in the matter of water-supply within municipal areas will lead to oppression by increasing taxation. Construction of drains within rural areas under the authority of the law will also mean oppression. Did not even Raja Peary Mohun see that every one of these resolutions would, when enforced, lead to oppression? None of the members of the Conference have greater knowledge of the mufassal than he.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

Mr. Phillips' transfer to Midnapore.

39. The same paper says that Mr. Phillips' transfer to Midnapore will be an act of favour to him. Midnapore will prove more agreeable to him than Mymensingh. By transferring him to Midnapore, Government will act like the dyspeptic Babu who punished his servant who had boiled his milk

hard by making him drink that very milk with a dose of sugar added to it.

40. The *Dainik-o-Samachar-Chandriká*, of the 21st July, says that Sir Charles Elliott may well be called a wandering Lieutenant-Governor. He has scarcely recovered from the fatigue of his late tour, and he proposes to commence a fresh tour on the 4th August next. Bengal has not yet seen a smart and active Lieutenant-Governor like Sir Charles, who has defeated even the late Sir George Campbell in activity.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 21st, 1892.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

41. The *Hitavadi*, of the 14th July, has the following :—

Self-Government in danger.

It appears from the draft Municipal Bill that the portions of it to which most objections have been taken, and the enforcement of which may be productive of the greatest mischief to the country, have been left unaltered. Thus the agitation of the people on the subject has proved abortive, Government having paid no heed to it. Disregarding the requests and entreaties of the people, Sir Charles Elliott has made up his mind to maintain his own *zid*. Government is now about to take away from the people the right which it had of its own accord conferred on them ten years ago. Under the proposed law the people will not be permitted to elect the Chairmen of Municipalities, and will not have full power even in the matter of electing Vice-Chairmen. Government now considers them unfit to exercise those very rights which they, in the opinion of previous Lieutenant-Governors, had exercised with credit and ability. Under the existing Municipal law, Government cannot, without obtaining the consent of the Municipal Commissioners of a Municipality, extend or curtail the limits of that municipality; but this privilege of the Municipal Commissioners the proposed law will take away. The writer's perusal of Mr. Risley's speech has both surprised and astounded him. Mr. Risley has framed his Bill on the model of the Punjab Municipal Law. But it is no small misfortune for the people of Bengal that the municipal law of a province like the Punjab, which is so inferior to their province in education, civilisation and political progress, should be accepted as a model for framing its municipal law. As one effect of the withdrawal of the right of electing their own Chairmen, the municipalities will appear lowered in dignity. Mr. Risley says that, of the 80 municipalities which were consulted on the subject, 20 have supported the proposed changes, and 60 have opposed them. But it is not known how many out of the 20 municipalities which have supported the proposals are under official Chairmen, and whether the official Chairmen consulted the Commissioners before giving their opinion on the subject. Mr. Risley has said nothing to clear up this point. The writer cannot consider as satisfactory Mr. Risley's statement, that to the public these will be unpleasant details. The public have every right to know, nay, it is very necessary for them to know, which of the municipalities in Bengal are prepared to support the illiberal proposal, the adoption of which will be a death-blow to Self-Government in Bengal. Mr. Risley's withholding of information on the subject has given rise to suspicions in the mind of the writer. The writer fears that in many cases official Chairmen may have stated their own views as the views of the Commissioners.

HITAVADI,
July 14th, 1892.

Mr. Risley says that of the 42 officers of Government who were consulted in the matter, only four were opposed to the proposal. But considering that the ruler of the province is himself a supporter of the proposal, it is no wonder that his subordinates should speak in its favour. The four officers who have opposed the proposal deserve thanks for their independence. The writer is sorry that the *Hindu Patriot* is supporting the Bill. Surely the *Hindu Patriot* has lost its old independence.

42. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 15th July, has the following on the Chaukidari Bill:—

The Chaukidari Bill.

It is the firm conviction of Government that the village chaukidar is entirely under the control of the village people, and the Chaukidari Bill has been introduced with a view of making the chaukidar a khas servant of Government. This is clear from Mr. Cotton's speech. But the writer, dull-witted as he is, is unable to see how the chaukidar is under the

SULABH DAINIK,
July 15th, 1892.

control of the village people. It is true the village people pay the chaukidari tax, and the panchayets appoint the chaukidars. But besides keeping watch in the village at night, the chaukidar has never been known to serve the village people in any other way. On the other hand, in his weekly visits to the thána, the chaukidar is made to do every menial work for the thána people. The only control, if control it can be called, which the village people exercise over the chaukidar is to call him to account if he fails in his duty of keeping watch at night, and it is for Mr. Cotton and his supporters to say if this makes the chaukidar the sole servant of the people.

It is Mr. Cotton's wish to vest the chaukidar with all the powers of a constable, and in this way to reduce very largely the number of the regular constabulary of the Province. But the writer fails to see any necessity of making such a change—of making a change, that is, which will be productive of more harm than good. Everybody knows what oppression is committed by police officers, high and low, during their occasional visits to the mufassal, and that oppression will certainly increase in consequence of the existence within the limited area of a village of four or five chaukidars possessed of full constabulary powers. The writer fails to see why Mr. Cotton and his master should be so anxious to increase police oppression in the country. It is true this part of Mr. Cotton's proposal means a considerable diminution of the police expenditure of Government, a result which will give great satisfaction to Sir Charles Elliott, who is so anxious to reduce public expenditure. But would it be an act worthy of the British Government to reduce its expenditure in this miserly fashion? There are items of expenditure which can be reduced without impairing efficiency of the administration. And why does not Sir Charles Elliott direct his attention to these? Take, for instance, the large annual expenditure on the hill exodus, the tour expenditure of the Lieutenant-Governor himself, and His Honour's own very fat salary. Are not these capable of reduction? Very slight reductions in these will yield a larger saving of money to Government than any reduction of the regular police force of the Province ever will. Sir Charles Elliott should bear in mind that the policy he is going to follow in this chaukidari affair will cast discredit on his name, unless he yet sees fit to reconsider the measure.

In conclusion, the writer would ask Government to explain clearly what improvements in the existing state of things it expects from the passing of the Bill. If it really expects that the chaukidar will, after the amendment is passed, discharge his duty more satisfactorily, then the writer would like to be told clearly and definitely in what way the chaukidar will give greater satisfaction. The people have been repeatedly told that everything the Government does is for the good of its subjects. The Arms Act, for instance, has been passed for the good of the people; the Consent Act has been passed for the good of the people; the Municipal Bill is going to be passed for the good of the people. But the people will this time ask the Government to point out to them clearly and specifically in what the good of passing the Chaukidari Bill will consist. And if it can do that the people will not utter another word against the measure.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
July 15th, 1892.

43. The *Education Gazette*, of the 15th July, referring to the British Indian Association's letter to Government on the subject of the Chaukidari Bill, makes the following observations:—

The Association says in the course of its letter that Government has praised the chaukidari system. But Government has, in point of fact, praised only the old village community and not the village chaukidari system. Again, the letter says that in 1870, Government came to the conclusion that it should not interfere with the chaukidari system. True, but is it bound to abide by a decision made 20 years ago?

BANGANIVASI,
July 15th, 1892.

The Municipal Bill.

44. The *Banganivási*, of the 15th July, has the following:—

Both Mr. Risley and the Lieutenant-Governor are assuring the people that they have nothing to fear from the Municipal Bill, and that no harm is meant by Government in reserving to itself the power of appointing the Chairman of any particular municipality. The writer is perfectly willing to accept this

assurance, nor does he mean to say that either Mr. Risley or the Lieutenant-Governor is dealing insincerely with the people in this matter. But he must say that the public are not prepared to place much confidence in the officers by whom the amended Act will be worked. The power of supervising the work of municipalities vests in the District Magistrates, and the higher authorities cannot be wholly unaware of the fact that these district officers are staunch opponents of Local Self-Government. It will be no wonder, therefore, if these district officers, with their increased powers, should on finding any flaw, however small, in the working of a municipality, do their best to deprive it of its independence. The writer will prove from Mr. Risley's own facts and figures how very opposed to Local Self-Government the district officers are. Mr. Risley says that the provision in the Bill relating to the appointment of municipal Chairmen by Government has 58 opinions on its side and 60 against it, and that of the 58 opinions received in favour of the provision, 38 have been given by officials and 20 by municipalities; and of the 60 adverse opinions, 4 have been given by officials and 56 by municipalities. And Mr. Risley himself has rightly concluded that the officials have almost in a body supported the provision, while 75 per cent. of the municipalities have opposed it. And the writer, for himself, suspects that the remaining 25 per cent. of the municipalities which have supported the provision are municipalities presided over by official Chairmen. But, however that may be, it is clear from the array of opinions received on this point, that the District Magistrates are only too willing to exercise control over the municipalities. And will they not, when vested with such control, frustrate Government's good intentions in regard to Local Self-Government? The appointment of Chairman should not, therefore, be left in the hands of Government, for that arrangement will surely bring about a sad deterioration in the condition of municipalities, and Sir Charles Elliott will then be blamed as having followed a retrograde policy in the matter of the municipal administration of the province. The writer is well aware that every municipality has not made the best use of its independence, that solitary instances may be adduced in which municipalities have made a very wrong use of their privileges. But he is, at the same time, of opinion that there are provisions in the existing law which furnish an adequate remedy for such cases. Mr. Risley says that that remedy is a little too harsh, and Government will therefore provide a gentler remedy. But in this case a harsh remedy will be better than a gentle remedy, because a harsh remedy will not involve the loss or forfeiture of a municipality's independence whilst a gentle remedy will.

After the appointment of official Chairmen it is but natural that Government should seek to exercise some control over the appointment of Vice-Chairmen, for in municipalities presided over by official Chairmen all real power will devolve on the Vice-Chairmen. It has been therefore proposed in the Bill to make the approval or sanction of Government to the appointment of a Vice-Chairman necessary. Mr. Risley says—"the duties of the Vice-Chairman are almost as important as those of the Chairman, and it seems advisable that Government should be placed in a position to exercise an effective influence in the matter. This is more particularly necessary in certain towns, where local magnates—men of old family and high position in the neighbourhood—have offered themselves for election to the post of Chairman. It is in many ways a great advantage to the municipalities concerned to have such men at their head, but, as a rule, they cannot be expected to exercise the same amount of minute personal supervision as an ordinary Chairman; and in such cases therefore the duties of the Vice-Chairman come to be of special importance and require to be subject to special control." But Mr. Risley may be asked whether the framers of the existing Act did not fully realise the importance attaching to the post of Vice-Chairman, and whether they did not consider the question of Government's controlling these appointments. No such control was considered necessary eight years ago when the present Act was framed, and it has been considered necessary now when the people have acquired eight years' experience of local self-government. The privileges granted to the municipalities have not, as a rule, been abused, and the writer therefore fails to see any necessity of curtailing them or hedging them round with restrictions. Can Mr. Risley give a list of the municipalities which have abused their privilege of appointing their own

Vice-Chairmen ? There can be no doubt that he would have given such a list if he had been able to do so.

It is unnecessary to criticise the Bill at greater length. The more carefully one looks into it, the clearer it becomes that by carrying out the changes proposed in the measure Government will deal a blow at local self-government. It is rumoured in some quarters that the authorities do not contemplate without uneasiness or with complacency, the growing aspirations of the people for a share in the administration of their own country, and hence the present Municipal Bill. And the writer cannot think that the rumour is absolutely unfounded.

BANGAVASI,
July 16th, 1892.

45. Referring to the proposal in the Chaukidari Bill to appoint tahsildars to collect the chaukidari tax where the panchayets cannot regularly collect it or pay the chaukidars, The Chaukidari Bill.

the *Bangavasi*, of the 16th July, says that the tahsildari system will prove a source of great mischief to the people. The panchayets being, in the generality of cases, residents of the village itself, must know better than a tahsildar would how and when the tax could be best collected from the villagers. And the panchayets cannot be charged with neglecting their duty, for they know very well that if they fail to pay the chaukidars regularly their own property will be seized and sold by the Magistrate in order to satisfy the chaukidars' dues. The fact that the chaukidari tax is not always collected in full is owing not to the panchayet's negligence in collecting it, but to the extreme poverty of the masses, and a tahsildar will in no way improve matters in this respect. Taxes in the municipal towns are collected by paid collectors ; but it is feared that not a single instance of a full collection of municipal taxes can be shown. It should not, therefore, be expected that, in the villages, where people are much poorer than in the towns, any tax will be collected in full. The tahsildar may, it is true, be able to make better collections by oppressing the poor villagers. But in order to keep up the pressure on the people for this purpose it will be necessary to make that pressure constant, and that will necessitate the appointment of one tahsildar for every village, instead of the appointment of one tahsildar for a group of 40 or 50 villages, which is probably what is in the contemplation of the Government. But one tahsildar for every village must be a very expensive arrangement, and so there must be one tahsildar for a group of say 30, 40, or 50 villages. But one tahsildar for many villages will mean great hardship and inconvenience for the villagers. Supposing a tahsildar to be appointed for 30 villages, he will be able to devote only three days in every three months to each village. And it should be easy to guess what a deal of hardship it will be to the poor villagers to have to bring together the entire amount of a quarter's chaukidari tax within the brief space of three days.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 21st, 1892.

46. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st July, has the following :—

The Municipal and Chaukidari Bills.

The Bengal Municipal Bill and the Chaukidari Bill as amended by the Select Committee have been published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and the former has been referred to a Select Committee. The Chaukidari Bill has come out of the hands of the Select Committee almost in the shape in which it went in and is therefore open to the same objections as the original Bill. Government is determined to make the village chaukidar disobey the village people, to vest him with more power, and to include him in the regular police organisation, and it is not at all likely that it will listen to any protest. As regards the Municipal Bill, there is little hope that it will receive any material or substantial alterations at the hands of the Select Committee.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

SANJIVANI,
July 16th, 1892.

47. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th July, says that the people of Jamaldaha in

Flood and distress in Kuch Bihár.

Kuch Bihár had been already suffering from scarcity, and heavy floods taking place on the 7th and 8th July last have served to increase their misery. Import of rice into the State is completely stopped owing to the flood, and a large number of cattle have been swept away. The *aus* and other crops have been seriously damaged.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

48. A correspondent of the *Banganivasi*, of the 15th July, says that the people of the Jalpaiguri district are suffering greatly from scarcity of food. Only the other day the Civil Surgeon certified to a poor peasant's death from eating a large quantity of boiled jute leaves. And a large number of people submitted a petition to the Deputy Commissioner, in which they stated that they could not get even enough *kachu* plants for food in the absence of rice. The writer remarks that if these statements be true, then must it be said that the Jalpaiguri people are in sad straits indeed. Will the Government, after this, deny the existence of famine in the country?

BANGANIVASI,
July 15th, 1892.

49. The *Bangavasi*, of the 16th July, has learnt from its Magura correspondent that the agriculturists and labourers in Magura, in the Khulna district, are suffering from scarcity. Has the District Magistrate, Babu Brajendra De, any knowledge of this distress? The writer has not up to this time seen any mention of the scarcity in any official papers or reports.

BANGANIVASI,
July 16th, 1892.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

50. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 12th July, has received the following communication from a friend:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
July 12th, 1892.

The water-supply question. The reason why people in these days do not care to excavate tanks is that excavation is unremunerative work. A tank, for instance, whose excavation costs Rs. 2,000 will hardly let at Rs. 25 a year, or sell for Rs. 500. But it is different as regards re-excavating a tank. Many would be willing to re-excavate tanks if a large number of co-sharers did not stand in their way. A tank has sometimes one hundred co-sharers, and it is extremely difficult to get all of them to consent to its re-excavation. If this difficulty can be removed, there will be no necessity of establishing a Water-supply Fund with money begged from Government and the people. Moreover, it is not at all likely that the very large sum required for such a fund will be raised by means of subscription. As for Government, its financial condition will not allow it to give much help in the matter. The writer, therefore, makes the following proposal:—When information reaches Government that a tank in a village is silted up or is in the course of silting up, it should send a Deputy Collector or a Sub-Deputy Collector to report on the subject after making a personal inspection of the tank. If the correctness of the information is proved by the official report, a notice should be served on the owners of the tank requiring them to re-excavate it within a year from the date of the service of the notice. And if the owners fail to do so within the prescribed time, Government should purchase the tank under the Land Acquisition Act, at its proper price, and sell it to the highest bidder by public auction. If this is done, the difficulty arising out of joint-ownership will be removed and the new owner of the tank will do the work of re-excavation.

51. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th July, thus remarks on Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's return to Parliament:—

SAHACHAR,
July 13th, 1892.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's return to Parliament.

The return of an Indian, one of the conquered race, to the highest assembly in the British Empire, is a new event in the English history. It is true that the ancient Roman Empire was formed by the combination of many nationalities, and that many instances of the conquered sitting in the assembly of the conqueror can be found in Roman history. On one occasion Spain, and on another Asia Minor, furnished even an Emperor to Rome. Nevertheless, Mr. Dadabhai's return to Parliament proves the greatness and the liberality of the English people. The giving of thanks to the electors of Central Finsbury before the election was a very sensible device, which must have greatly helped Mr. Dadabhai's candidature. So far so good. But so long as Mr. Dadabhai does not take his seat in Parliament, it will not be proper to indulge in rejoicings for his election. Mr. Dadabhai's election has, it is true, proved to the world how noble the British Empire is and what a glory it is to be a member of that Empire; but what gain has that event brought to India? Ireland returns 100 members to Parliament and yet what has it been able to get in the way of political reform? And so what will

Mr. Dadabhai single-handed do? The British Parliament is a place in which no false coin can pass. No member of Parliament can do useful work who does not know how to fight in a right cause with patience and say the right thing in the right moment. Even the illustrious John Stuart Mill was a failure as a member of Parliament. Thus India will be benefited by Mr. Dadabhai's election only if he can stand the scrutiny of his ballot and then succeed in making the wants of his country known to Parliament in temperate language. Number, in this respect, counts for nothing in Parliament, for that member is sure to succeed who says the right things in the right way.

The people of Hyderabad, both Hindu and Mussalman, have held a meeting to express their joy at Mr. Dadabhai's election. This shows that, properly speaking, the Congress has no enemies. If everybody could speak out his mind, it would be easy to prove that he has the good of the Congress at heart. But some people, such as the Native Princes, cannot speak out their mind, while men like Syed Ahmed, Raja Siva Prosad and the Raja of Bhingá, want to gain their selfish ends by flattering the European officials. These rejoicings for Mr. Dadabhai's election, therefore, show that a sense of united interests has united all India into a grand whole.

HITAVADI,
July 14th, 1892.

52. The *Hitaradi*, of the 14th July, has the following in the course of an article headed "A black man in the British Parliament":—

India's real welfare will date from this time. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji has been victorious at the present Parliamentary election. An Indian has at last obtained a seat in Parliament; the people of India have at last been thought fit to obtain a seat in the Cabinet of the vast British Empire. Under the British rule, the people of India had never before known an auspicious day like this. It is true all India was in an ecstasy of delight on the day on which the Maharani assumed the direct administration of India, and by sweet and encouraging words filled with the nectar of hope the despairing hearts of the Indians. But not even that joy can compare with the joy of Mr. Dadabhai's return to Parliament. It is joy everywhere—joy among princes and people—Hindus, Mussalmans, Christians, and Parsies are all alike in joy, and meetings are being held in all large towns to give expression to the joy. No Indian can be elected as a member of any of the Indian Legislative Councils. But an Indian has obtained a seat in the British Parliament. This reflects no small credit on the English people. Will not that people give the noble system of election to the people of India? The people of India will ever remain grateful to the electors of Central Finsbury. And if the united blessings of 30 crores of mute men can do any good, the electors of Central Finsbury will surely gain that good. The auspicious seed which the Congress has been so long in sowing is now germinating.

GRAMVASI
July 15th, 1892.

53. The *Gramvasi*, of the 15th July, says that it is not a matter for small joy that an Indian has been elected a Member of Parliament. Mr. Dadabhai's election opens up a new road to India's advancement. The wants and wishes of India will now be told to Parliament by her representative.

SUDHAKAR,
July 15th, 1892.

54. The *Sudhakar*, of the 15th July, says that Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's return to Parliament only proves the magnanimity of the English people. The English being the rulers of India might naturally regard their subjects with jealousy, not unmixed with a certain measure of contempt. But the English people have chosen Mr. Naoroji to be one of their own representatives in the British Parliament. And no better proof than this could be had of the magnanimity of the people of England. The writer doubts whether Mr. Naoroji's election to Parliament would have been possible, but for this generosity on the part of the English people.

No sanguine expectations, however, ought to be entertained in regard to the services which Mr. Naoroji may be able to do to his mother country in his capacity of a Member of Parliament. One among 670 members, what may he be able to do for India? All that Mr. Naoroji can do for his country is to bring the grievances of his countrymen to the notice of Parliament, and to strengthen the hands of the Liberal party in dealing with this country. Every Indian,

however, is glad that a countryman of theirs has been returned to the British Parliament.

55. The *Bangavási*, of the 16th July, has the following:—

Mr. Naoroji's return to Parliament.

The Babus are jubilant over Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's return to Parliament. The writer, however, sees no rhyme or reason in all this rejoicing. It is true Dadabhai is an Indian by birth, but he is a resident of England, and his style of living and thinking has become thoroughly Anglicised. He is, to all intents and purposes, an Englishman, at any rate, a Feringhee. The writer fails to see what benefit India will derive from his presence in Parliament, even if it is admitted that he is a patriotic son of his mother country. It is a single Indian gentleman that will get a seat in Parliament by Mr. Naoroji's return; but not a score of Indian gentlemen in Parliament will be able to change the course or character of British policy in India. Not to speak of the conduct of the higher officials of the Government in this country—will a hundred Naorojis in Parliament be able to put a check upon the policy which is followed even by such subordinate officers as the late Assistant Magistrate of Mymensingh? The English rulers of India will not, so long as life exists in them, allow anybody to interfere with their doings or their policy. Mr. Naoroji's return to Parliament will rather aggravate the evil of a subject-people in the enjoyment of freedom by increasing the anomaly, and make the road to India's ruin wider.

BANGAVASI,
July 16th, 1892.

56. The *Sáraswat Patra*, of the 16th July, says that Mr. Naoroji's election

Mr. Naoroji's return to Parliament.

to Parliament is undoubtedly a new event in the history of India, but those who are giving themselves up to wild transports of joy on this account are as much mistaken as those who want to attach no importance whatsoever to the occurrence. The writer does not think that Mr. Naoroji will be able to make himself particularly useful to his country in his new capacity, but he may, by raising Indian topics frequently in the House, succeed in inducing the British public to pay more attention to Indian questions.

SARASWAT PATRA,
July 16th, 1892.

57. The *Dacca Prokásh*, of the 17th July, says that of the four proposals now before the Currency Association for the solution of the exchange difficulty, the third relates to

The Currency question.

the adoption of a gold currency in India. But India being a poor country, a gold currency will not suit it. It will, nevertheless, gain rather than lose by adopting such a currency. The export trade of India being larger than its import trade, the adoption of a gold currency will have the effect of attracting more gold into the country than will go out of it to meet the demands of the import trade. And so the adoption of a gold currency will increase India's wealth. Though it will not prevent the drain on India's resources caused by the Home charges and by the earnings of Anglo-Indian merchants, it will to a great extent prevent loss from exchange. And it is for this reason that the writer is for a gold currency. If, however, a gold currency is adopted in India, it will have to be restricted to transactions relating to sums of Rs. 100 and upwards. Its use in smaller transactions will be attended with much inconvenience and oppression. As transactions connected with foreign trade involve large sums of money, the proposed restriction will not affect that trade. The fourth proposal is for compensating from Indian revenue the loss which Anglo-Indians suffer from exchange. This is a most iniquitous and shameless proposal, and it is only the Anglo-Indians, fattening on India's money, who can make such a proposal. Of these four proposals, the Currency Association ought to adopt the first which relates to the adoption of two metals. It is true the Government in England is not likely to give its consent to the adoption of bimetallism in India; but if the Anglo-Indian officers and merchants combine on the point, they may be able to carry it. If the Government of India pays the expenses of the office of the Secretary of State in rupees, takes indigenous in place of foreign goods, for the use of the offices under it, imposes a heavy import duty on piece-goods and other articles, and pays in rupee all interest due to European capitalists; and if Indian merchants refuse, for a time, to take goods imported from England, England will be obliged to adopt a bimetallic currency. The people of India will suffer no inconvenience by abstaining from the use of goods imported from England. But England will, on her side, lose immense sums of money if her trade with India is suspended.

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 17th, 1892.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 17th, 1892.

58. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 17th July, has the following:—

Mr. Mackay on the Currency question.

In spite of the efforts of the promoters of the Indian Currency Association to make their recent Town Hall meeting a success, the meeting, so far as attendance was concerned, proved almost a failure. It is doubtful whether even three hundred people were present. The majority consisted of Europeans and Eurasians, while the Bengali element was represented by half-a-dozen men, among whom Maharaja Narendra Krishna occupied the most conspicuous position.

The Association has not received the unanimous support of the Anglo-Indian community, many of whom believe that it is the exchange difficulty which has given a stimulus to the export trade of India. Those Anglo-Indian merchants, therefore, who do anything like an extensive export business, are unwilling to see the exchange difficulty removed. Some of them, again, are of opinion that a falling exchange is favourable to the tea and indigo interests. There can be no doubt that it is the present unfavourable exchange which is largely responsible for the enormous increase within recent years of India's export trade in food-grains, a result which is also partly due to the opening of railways and canals, and to the action of shipowners and railway authorities in reducing their rates of freight. It is perfectly clear that merchants doing export business in this country have everything to gain by, and are therefore anxious to see a continuance of the present state of exchange.

Now, as it is the interest of the English merchant which the Indian Currency Association is intended to guard and promote, Mr. Mackay attempted in his speech at the Town Hall meeting to answer the objections that have been raised by some of the members of the European mercantile body, themselves, against the views of the Association. The Association has nothing to do with the two hundred and eighty millions of Indians, and so Mr. Mackay has not thought it fit to take any notice of the objections which have been made by native newspapers against his proposals. Mr. Mackay's speech is to the effect that—"The Anglo-Indian's interest is identical with the Indian's interest. Anything therefore that promotes the Anglo-Indian's interest necessarily promotes the Indian's interest. Anything that will facilitate British trade in India will lead to an increase of India's prosperity. The question is not one that has any reference to the interests of the two hundred and eighty millions of Indians, and those interests it is not necessary to discuss or take into account. It would be enough if the Association's proposed memorial to Parliament contained the signatures of Europeans and Eurasians, though it was desirable to have the signatures of a few distinguished natives too, and a few native signatures it would not be difficult to obtain. The natives will readily sign our memorial, and do anything else that we may ask them to do. They are not able to understand their own interests, and they are utterly unfit to enter into this complex currency question, which they have never thought over." It is the support of men like Maharaja Narendra Krishna that has doubtless led Mr. Mackay and his friends in the Association to think in this manner.

It is highly probable that, in considering the Association's memorial, Parliament will, in the first place, attend to the interests of the British people, and if not repugnant to those interests, it will, in the next place, attend to the interests of the Anglo-Indians and grant the Association's prayer. But the interests of the Indians will hardly receive any attention. A member here or a member there may feel some interest in the question as affecting the Indians, but such members will be easily silenced by being told that the memorial contains the signatures of men like Maharaja Narendra Krishna. Official action in reference to the exchange difficulty has always been marked by this indifference to native interest. On the Commission which sat in 1866, it was only the Anglo-Indians who were represented, and in all that has been up to this time done by Government in regard to the currency question it has always thought fit to consult Anglo-Indian interest alone. The handful of Indians who have been persuaded to sign the Association's memorial are not representative men. Nor do they possess any knowledge of the exchange and currency questions. The support of such men may enable the Association to throw dust in the eyes of Parliament, but all India will protest against such action. The Association is an Association of Anglo-Indians only, and its memorial is a memorial of the Anglo-

Indians only, in which the natives do not possess the smallest interest. The introduction of a gold currency in India will prove extremely injurious to this country, and the measure will never receive the support or approval of any thoughtful Indian.

59. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 18th July, thanks Babu Jogendranath Basu, and Dr. Mahendralal Sircar and his good wife, for their efforts in establishing the leper asylum at Deoghur, and thanks Sir Charles Elliott for laying the foundation stone of the asylum building.

DAINIK-O-SOMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
July 18th, 1892.

In this connection the writer feels irresistibly tempted to point to the proof that Sir Charles Elliott gave at Deoghur of a feeling heart, by speaking as he did of the weaker sex in India. His Honour said:—"A good deal has been said and written about the degradation of women in India, but I firmly believe that most of these statements are based on mistaken facts, or a want of knowledge of the subject." But the writer believes that many people wilfully speak of the Indian women in terms of dispraise and disparagement.

60. The same paper says that it is probable that the Lieutenant-Governor purposely referred in his Deoghur speech to the liberality and public munificence of Raja Suryya Kanta. Perhaps his praise of the Raja at such a time was intended to be an indirect rebuke to Mr. Phillips and an assurance to the public that the efforts of a hundred Phillipses to tarnish the fair name for which the Raja has become such a favourite with the Government will fail. The public should note the fact that the Raja is still in the good graces of the Lieutenant-Governor.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

URIYA PAPERS.

61. The *Uriya and Navasamvad*, of the 22nd June, and the *Samvadvahika*, of the 23rd June, are still quarrelling over the question of the latrine-fee as levied in the Balasore Municipality. The latter paper publishes a petition which 2,572 rate-payers of the Balasore Municipality are said to have submitted to the District Magistrate, against the alleged oppressive measures of that municipality.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
June 22nd, 1892.
SAMVADVAHIKA,
June 23rd, 1892.

62. The *Samvadvahika*, of the 23rd June, reports cholera from the Balasore town and from Janugunj, Bamunia, and Remuna, that are situated very near that town. The cholera is said to be of a very virulent type, as the percentage of cures is very small.

SAMVADVAHIKA,
June 23rd, 1892.

63. The *Utkaldipika*, of the 25th June, strongly objects to the proposal of the Bengal Government to abolish the jury system in Bengal, and points out that any attempt to abolish it will be looked upon as a black spot on the bright administration of Sir Charles Elliott.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 25th, 1892.

64. The same paper reports signs of dire distress in the Cuttack district, and in support of his statement says that certain poor men of the weaver class, belonging to the Kujong estate in that district, went over to Dhenkanal *via* Cuttack, where they managed to see the Cuttack Collector, to whom they represented that want of food had compelled them to leave their homes, and that the Collector received their representation with indifference.

UTKALDIPIKA.

ASSAM PAPERS.

65. The *Paridarshak*, of the 11th July, says that Mr. Ward's proposal to hold an open competitive examination for selection of candidates for Sub-Deputyships in Assam, will not benefit the people of the Province, backward as they are in education, unless special favour is shown to them in making appointments to the office, as is done by the Bengal Government towards its Bihari and Uriya subjects. Moreover, the number of Sub-Deputies in Assam, being not

PARIDARSHAK,
July 11th, 1892.

more than twenty at the most, the writer fails to see how an examination can be held every year, when there will hardly be one vacancy in the course of three or four years. The examination is not likely to be a success, specially for the last-mentioned reason.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 23rd July 1892.